





## AUCTION SALES.

J. A. McCREA will sell, at 11 o'clock a.m., at Saleroom, Blankets, Clothing, Dry Goods, Stores from Ship *Helvetia*, and the balance of stock of a retail Dry Goods store.

Messrs. FRANKLIN will hold a Real Estate Sale, at noon, at their salesroom, situate on Yates, Douglas, Government, Collinson, streets, etc., etc.

## Lancashire Relief Fund.

Quarles & Co., Auctioneers, £30.

## LATEST FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.

## STABBING AFFRAY AT CARIBOO.

The steamer *Enterprise* arrived here on Saturday evening from New Westminster. She had only about ten passengers on board, and a small amount of gold, per Dietz & Nelson's Express.

We have been favored with the following circumstantial account of a desperate affray which took place lately at Cariboo, and by which the life of a man named Thomas Handing, a miner, was placed in imminent peril. Handing is well known amongst his confederates by the appellation of "Big Tom," and is what the name indicates, a man of immense stature and about herculean proportions. Tom, we regret to state, is a person habitually addicted to intemperance, and when in that deplorable state is extremely offensive in his language and behavior to those who will not accede to his demands for drink. As we are informed, for several days before the affray happened which so nearly terminated his existence, he had besieged the house of a man in Richmond named Charles Smith, and had literally pelted him with liquor. Having quitted Tom finally declined compliance, whereupon Tom generally used his importunities by pulling Bowen's nose. At length Handing became bolder and bolder, and at last, when he would not give him whiskey, and went out for the purpose, as he said, of borrowing a pistol to carry his threat into execution. Not being able to procure one, he returned and assaulted his opponent, who in the scuffle which ensued, picked up a knife and plunged it into Handing's body.

The wounded man was immediately attended by a Doctor, and he was progressing favorably at latest accounts. There has hitherto been no expectation of a peaceful and well disposed person, and formerly was engaged in carrying the mail between Shasta and Weaver in California, and physically was no match for his gigantic antagonist. The latter, giving himself up, and saying he was giving his trial for the offence. This is another of the many effects produced by the love of drink, and we hope it will be a lesson to those who unfortunately give themselves up as slaves to the demon. We were much interested to read the police report, the persecutions already referred to were going on, but we need not ask the question as it is very well known that the Magistrate of the district, the Chief of Police, and most of the able-bodied men of the district, who their services are not required—instead of being in their proper place.

NEW TRAIL TO CARIBOO. Captain Mitchell is making great progress in cutting the trail from the North Fork of Cusseta, through the mountains, to the place where the trail from the wagon road from Libroot. The trail is already completed and open from the Captain's house to the Lake, a distance of eight miles. Some of his men were engaged in building a house on the shore of the lake, and others were busy getting lumber for building a steamer to run upon the lake—a distance of twenty-five miles. According to Mitchell's statement his route will be forty-five miles long, and he will not yet open it. Every exertion we understand will be made to have it ready for traffic in the spring, when miners are on the march. If it really turns out that Mr. Mitchell's route is so much shorter than the trail which people took to Cariboo, it will certainly be a great benefit to the community for opening it up.

UNPLEASANTLY CONDUCT.—It seems that the disturbance which arose in the dress-circle of the theatre on Saturday evening, was caused by the attempt of several members of the Dramatic Association to eject the party who threw an apple on the stage. We are glad to find that the disorder created was no private squabble, and consider that the prompt action of those gentlemen is entitled to some praise. If persons must take such very vulgar means (which are disgraceful anywhere), of displaying their opinions upon the stage, let them by all means avoid the dress-circle. Any action that may provoke a riot in the presence of ladies, and we at once discredit and unmanly, and we that in future committees having the conduct of theatrical entertainments will engage the purport by the management on the evening referred to, and at once eject any intruder who may compromise himself by a breach of decorum. If this patronage is not adopted, smug faces of patronage of the fair sex may be indulged.

FURIOUS RIDING.—Mr. William Culverwell appeared before the Mayor on Saturday morning last to answer a charge preferred by Mr. John Copland, of riding through the streets at a faster pace than the law permits. The defendant pleaded that he was, on the occasion referred to, proceeding to Esquimalt to arrest a man under authority from the Chief Justice, and that the most direct route was required. A good deal of wrangling between the complainant and defendant took place, in the course of which several motives for the former's information were attributed. The Mayor considered the evidence given by the defendant to have some weight, and accordingly fined him only \$2 50.

THE BRUTAL ASSAULT.—Charles Rhodes, whose brutality towards a young woman was exposed in our last issue, was brought up on remand before Mr. Pemberton on Saturday morning. The Superintendent of Police stated, that the other persons who had been aggrieved by the prisoner were afraid to lay complaint against him. The magistrate then convicted him of the offence which he stood charged and fined him five pounds for the assault on Jenny Wilmer, and for the assault on the daughter of the prisoner, he was further ordered to find security, himself in fifty pounds and two sureties in twenty pounds each, to be of good behavior for six months.

CARIBOO SILVER MINES.—In the account given of these mines in Saturday's issue, the sentence "There are two companies who have taken up claims," should have read, The two mining companies, etc. There are about twenty companies altogether who have registered claims in the locality. The creek was only discovered as a silver-bearing district last summer, but miners had been prospecting for gold upon the lands for several months previously. It has been known as "Crow Creek," until lately.

FROM NANA MO.—The schooner *Julia* and Royal Charter, with 63 and 30 tons of coal respectively, and the ship *Alarm* with 16 tons arrived on Saturday, consigned to J. T. L. The schooner *Cariboo*, Capt. James, also arrived the same day with 30 tons for R. Brodick. She left Nanaimo on Friday last, at 2.30 p.m., when the only vessel in port was the barque *San Francisco*.

SAILED.—The ship *Frigate Bird* left the harbor yesterday and anchored outside. She is bound for Barclay Sound, where she will load with lumber for Callao. The five deserters arrested by the police at Saanich were taken on board in fumes last night; they offered strenuous resistance to the policemen who took them to the wharf, and the hand-cuffs were put on by main force.

ARRIVED FROM SAN FRANCISCO.—The bark D. M. Hall, Captain Williams, arrived on the 31st ult. from San Francisco. She left that port on the 18th January, and has been fourteen days on the passage. There is a large cargo of general merchandise on board. Messrs. St. Ours & Co. are the consignees.

## Esquimalt Free School.

At a p.m., on Saturday evening, a meeting was called on order by Mr. F. Williams, when the Rev. C. T. Woods was called to the chair, and Mr. R. J. Preston as Secretary. The minutes of the first meeting, January, 23d, were then read. It was suggested by the Chairman that instead of an entirely Free School, a small charge should be made for each pupil, but those who might be unable to pay might be admitted gratis, by applying to the Trustees. Supported by Capt. Verney, H. M. Gumbart Grappler, Mr. Wilby's motion was opposed, it defending the ground work of the structure (Free School). Mr. Battle also opposed it, giving as an example his experience in Canada, where the small payment of 25 cents per month, caused the overthrow of the whole institution. Messrs. Williams, Hawkins, and Rothwell, were also opposed to the Chairman's suggestion, taking the ground that the Committee were pledged to the subscribers, that the money should be applied for the purpose of a Free School.

The Chairman's suggestion was then withdrawn, and the meeting adjourned. Mr. Wilby on behalf of the Committee appointed at the last meeting reported as follows, viz: That notwithstanding collections for the Esquimalt Free School, and being in the opinion they had succeeded in obtaining a list of subscriptions, single donations, etc., to be collected to the amount of \$222.00 of monthly subscriptions, equal per month to \$22 50. Besides which they collected in cash \$100, and the balance of the money applied to the working of the school should prove satisfactory. Mr. Rothwell, as a member of the Committee, proposed that their labors be rewarded by their dismissal, which was accordingly done, the thanks of the meeting being tendered them for the efficient and praiseworthy manner in which they had discharged their duties. The meeting was given to understand that Mr. English, R. N., H. M. S. Despatch was also collected by the Committee, and the following were appointed: R. C. T. Woods, Chairman and Treasurer; R. C. Hawkins, and H. E. Wilby.

The Chairman informed the meeting that in consequence of the increasing importance of Esquimalt, he had been appointed by the Bishop, Rector of Esquimalt, and had been relieved of some of his duties in other places. He would now be able to devote more attention to the town.

On a discussion in regard to a teacher, it was left to the discretion of the committee to advertise for and engage one forthwith.

The Esquimalt Free School being thus organized by the appointment of a permanent committee for its management, a vote of thanks was given to the Chairman, and at 9 1/2 p.m. the meeting adjourned, sine die.

THE ROBERT LUGG.—This the schooner, under the command of Captain Congdon, left Esquimalt harbor yesterday morning for San Francisco. She carried a mail and an Express besides about fifty passengers for the latter port. We understand she will be employed in future in the direct trade between China and San Francisco in addition to the other vessels of the same line already engaged there. During her stay here, the greater number of the sailors deserted the ship, and the Captain was under the necessity of employing new hands. The next steamship belonging to Messrs. Lindsay & Co., which may be expected in here, is the *Yama* from London, but she will not be due for some time yet.

BOUND OVER.—John Burnett, the young man found concealed in the Oriental Saloon a few nights ago was on Saturday ordered by the magistrate to furnish bonds, himself in £50 and two sureties in £20 each, to be of good behavior for six months.

ASSAULT.—A passenger who came out by the ship *Frigate Bird* was on Saturday evening waylaid by two seamen belonging to that vessel whom he had accused of theft and was severely beaten. The seamen gentleman has been in several scrapes already since his arrival.

SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS.—The sale of lands upon which the instalments due to the Crown have not been paid, will take place to-day. Sections in almost every district are in the market.

ARREST.—One of the parties concerned in the row at the Hotel de France a few nights since, was arrested Saturday morning on a warrant for an alleged assault. He was afterwards liberated on bail.

COWICHAN SETTLEMENT.

BUCKLES, COWICHAN, 29th Jan, 1863.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST.—Dear Sir,—As the snow gradually disappears, giving the ground to the showers, anything but genial, which is now constantly falling, this settlement is beginning to assume a somewhat more lively aspect; our settlers are once more hard at work clearing, and are now beginning to plant in the spring seed. In south and westernmost of the settlers will have from five to ten acres planted this year, which considering that there is not a yoke of oxen in the district, we consider pretty good. We are promised by the settlers that when the weather will permit it, our roads will be commenced. I sincerely hope there will be no further delay in this matter, for unless we have means of getting out of the settlement to another, we shall not be able to get our terms cultivated for the next ten years, but with good roads in twelve months from this time, we shall see a considerable portion of our land under the plough, the land for the most part easily worked, it is except for the most part easily worked, and which no settler will have any difficulty in clearing, and which no settler will have any difficulty in clearing, and which no settler will have any difficulty in clearing.

There has been some talk of late, and probably will be some time to come, the difficulty is that hitherto there has been no office on our side of the bay, at which any information can be obtained respecting vacant land, this we must be remedied, for a register will be kept by Mr. Brock at his store at the Indian village, close to the spot where all vessels running to Cowichan anchor. I do not know whether or not government will appoint Mr. Harris to the charge of an official register, but it is certainly very important to intending settlers, respecting land vacant or likely to be vacant; there are I believe likely to be one or two eligible lots vacated shortly, if the present owners can realize what they have expected on improvements. We have tolerably good communications with Victoria, by stop plying regularly, and we have also a ferry to Saanich to meet the stage, this I will think be our best route, as a steam ferry is on the lips, and the projectors of this undertaking will have no doubt be able to get a good thing of it, and the settlers will have with delight the establishment of a ferry, which will convey their cattle and implements at a reasonable rate. In addition to his store Mr. Brock has the interest of the settlement at heart, and is anxious to build a wharf which will be of the greatest use to all of us, we hope to have a gala day at the opening of the store or wharf, of which I shall not fail to send you an account.

Yours, S.

NEW WESTMINSTER.—The amount realized by the performance of the Royal Engineers' Dramatic Association, at the late entertainment given by them for the benefit of the Lancashire operatives, amounts to the large sum of \$311. Small-pox, we are glad to learn, is on the decrease in New Westminster.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—The house was well filled on Saturday evening, and Forest's celebrated tragedy of "Jack Cade," came off remarkably well. Miss Mitchell's impersonation of Marianne was exceedingly truthful and life-like, and Mr. Waldron never appeared to greater advantage than in the character of Jack Cade. The two act drama of the "Bashfuler's" concluded the performance. This evening Sir Belvoir Linton's play of the "Lady of Lyons," will be produced, and we may only recall to mind the effect of Miss Mitchell's and Mr. Waldron's acting when the same play was last repeated. Something like a year ago this will form part of the entertainment, for tonight to ensure a full house.

Water Rights.—Editor BRITISH COLONIST.—Sir—It is difficult enough to give me a small space in your valuable journal for the purpose of pointing to a few facts connected with water rights in this colony, they have succeeded in obtaining a list of subscriptions, single donations, etc., to be collected to the amount of \$222.00 of monthly subscriptions, equal per month to \$22 50. Besides which they collected in cash \$100, and the balance of the money applied to the working of the school should prove satisfactory. Mr. Rothwell, as a member of the Committee, proposed that their labors be rewarded by their dismissal, which was accordingly done, the thanks of the meeting being tendered them for the efficient and praiseworthy manner in which they had discharged their duties. The meeting was given to understand that Mr. English, R. N., H. M. S. Despatch was also collected by the Committee, and the following were appointed: R. C. T. Woods, Chairman and Treasurer; R. C. Hawkins, and H. E. Wilby.

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Yours, S.

## Cariboo Silver Mines.

Editor BRITISH COLONIST.—Sir—Having read the interesting article in your paper on this subject, I may state in corroboration of the facts therein contained, that I and my partners in a claim on the same creek, Sonnes Creek, have assayed the Silver ore found there, and it fully bears out the results obtained by Mon Sagues and others who have experimented upon it. I may say that the quartz which I assayed gave a larger quantity of Gold and Silver than that mentioned in your account. I am satisfied that as a Silver-bearing district, Cariboo will yet prove of more importance than as a Gold-bearing one. There are now about twenty full companies who have located claims on the creek. In my own company there are six of us, under the name of Teys Lefebvre & Co., Your obedient servant, H. LEBREVE.

31st January, 1863.

BRITISH COLUMBIA ESSAYS.—Really the Government of this colony would seem to have the least regard for decency or any notion of justice. Something like a year ago this two prizes of fifty pounds and ten pounds were offered for the best and second best Essays upon this Colony. After much shuffling the prizes were awarded to R. L. Brown of Libroot, and Mr. Anderson of Vancouver Island. But where are the Essays? The only conceivable ground upon which His Excellency would be justified in paying away the public revenue for Essays is that by their publication the Colony would be benefited. Why then these Essays kept smothered up? They will soon get to be of little value as the country is rapidly advancing and everything therewith connected changing. As the Essays were not published, the Editor of the *Colonist* would be benefited. Why then these Essays kept smothered up? They will soon get to be of little value as the country is rapidly advancing and everything therewith connected changing. 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